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ARAFAT BACKGROUND, PLO DISCUSSED

Athens EPIKAIRA in Greek No 698, 17-23 Dec 81 pp 36-38

/Text/ 14 November 1974. In the assembly hall inside the blue, glass skyscraper of the UN in New York. Above the speaker's platform dominated by a huge map of the world, this little man with the protruding belly, the thick lips, the long nose, gesticulates and hurls beautifully structured phrases nobody can counter. He is not representing a state. Yet, all those who hear him know that he represents a reality expressed in the way he is dressed. He wears a military uniform with a heavy pistol prominent at his side. His head is covered with a black and white Arab "karighia."

This man is Yasser Arafat, chairman of the executive council of the Palestinian Liberation Organization /PLO/ and leader of the armed forces of the Palestinian revolution. The reality he represents is that by their continuing struggle, armed and diplomatic, the Palestinian people have achieved de facto and also de jure recognition as a state entity. They do not have their state yet but still they set up embassies and diplomatic delegations in various capitals. They sign formal agreements. And PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is received as a head of state even by the UN although he is only the leader of a homeless revolution.

But who is this man who represents such an astounding reality, unique in the annals of the world? Fifty-one years old today, he was born in 1929 in Jerusalem. His real and complete name is Rahman Abdel-Rauf Arafat Al-Qudva Al-Husseini. Later he took the revolutionary name Yasser. In those days Palestine was a British colony--a "mandate" of the League of Nations (the League of Nations was the predecessor of the UN). The vast majority of the inhabitants were Palestinians, descendants of the ancient Philistines who became Arabs in the 13th century. There were also Jews as well as other Christian nationalities.

Palestine could have become a multi-religious, multi-ethnic state at the time colonialism was ended--and it would not be a unique case in the world--if the British had prepared for such a development. But they did the opposite. Instead of setting up the infrastructure of such a coexistence-type of state they set a mine under its foundations. In 1917 during World War I British Prime Minister Balfour with his famous declaration said that Palestine would become a state for the Jews of the diaspora.

Of course, the Jews were a serious problem for the world. For how long would they be hunted and exterminated like wild beasts, for how long would they be burned alive in ovens? They, too, should have their own state in which to live in safety. But if such a state were set up in Palestine already heavily populated by Palestinians a new international problem would be created that would start a fire in the world.

This fire was smoldering at the time Rahman Abdel-Rauf Arafat was born. His father, a well-to-do textile merchant, could see the danger. The Jews were coming in from all over the world in increasing numbers. From 56,000 in 1918 they reached 170,000 in 1929. Realizing the danger, he decided to leave. He took his family and his possessions and went to Cairo where he opened a store. Little Yasser found himself suddenly in a new environment. His father, seeing how intelligent his son was, thought: "My son will not become a storekeeper. He will go to school and become an important person."

The Prophecy

After high school, Yasser entered the Cairo Polytechnic School and studied civil engineering. But he was intensively conscious of his Palestinian heritage. He used to tell his father, "When I grow up I will be a fighter to throw the British out, to make Palestine our own great state."

It was the beginning of a prophecy. Except that the British were not going to be the target.

He was still a student when he became the leader of the Palestinian students in Cairo. When in 1948 Israel was created in Palestine by a UN resolution, followed by the first Arab-Israeli war, Yasser Arafat did not remain idle. He had already been baptized in the struggle of the Palestinians to make Palestine their national home. He did not join the Arab armies as a volunteer. The Arabs did not need soldiers, they needed weapons. Young Arafat, 20 years old, became an arms smuggler, carrying rifles and machine guns tirelessly to the Jordanians on camels through the desert.

That war ended with the unexpected victory of the Israelis. These money-changers proved to be terrific warriors. They had just gone through a period of tremendous terrorist activity against the British and the Arabs by the terrible terrorist armed organizations, Irgun, Leumi, Stern, which shook the British occupation to its foundations. They also hit the Arabs without mercy. These organizations became the breeding ground for tough political and military leaders such as Moshe Dayan and the present Premier Menahem Begin, whose pictures bearing the inscription "Wanted" were all over Jerusalem in those days.

In any event, the Jordanian state was a reality. But young Yasser saw clearly that this was only the beginning. The Palestinians who left their country en masse following the Israeli victory could not but start an effective struggle. In view of this struggle Yasser Arafat rushed to get ready to take part.

Upon graduation from the Cairo Polytechnic School, he joined the Egyptian Army as a volunteer and went to the school on explosives. In 1952 when the Egyptians

started a guerrilla war against the British at the Suez Canal, Arafat served in the commandoes. In 1956 when the British, French and Israelis attacked Nasser's Egypt in a clearly imperialist action, Arafat served in the Egyptian Army as a lieutenant in the units that fought against the French paratroopers of the famous General Massue in the Nile Delta.

In 1958 he went to Kuwait and started a construction company. But his real purpose was to take more active part in the organization of the liberation struggle of the Palestinians. The Arab countries were still reluctant in those days to sponsor Palestinian resistance. Kuwait was the right place. There, Yasser, while publishing the revolutionary magazine "Palestine," found ways to train Palestinians in explosives for their raids on Israel.

Inevitably the Palestinian struggle was being organized while the feud between Israel and the Arab states was increasing. Each year, in ever-widening circles as in an ancient tragedy, things moved to the great confrontation in which the Palestinians, too, should take part.

Emergence of the PLO

Militant organizations had appeared and were active but without coordination and with minor results. The big step was taken in 1964. In that year the PLO was established. It was not recognized by all Palestinians, but immediately it gained prominence in their world under the chairmanship of Ahmad El-Shukeiri, a big, dynamic, stormy Arab.

A few months later the National Liberation Movement of Palestine was set up, in fact the military arm of the PLO. This was the Al-Fatah. Its name is made up of the initials of these words in reverse order. This acronym composes the Arab word Hataf which means "death." The reverse forms the word Fatah which means "conquest"--conquest of freedom, of course, not conquest of land or people. The fighting sector of Al-Fatah was known as Al-Azifa which means "windstorm." The men composing it were called "Fedayeen," a word similar to commandoes. The special aspect of Al-Fatah was that it, too, became preeminent among the armed Palestinian organizations. And although initially it had a collective leadership, slowly Yasser Arafat, its virtual founder, emerged as its leader. The engineer of Kuwait gave up everything and devoted himself totally to the struggle. He became a professional revolutionary. Soon it gave a new impetus to the Palestinian struggle. Except that there was not much unity or coordination among the Palestinians. Even within the PLO there were feuds. This had its repercussions at the moment of the great crisis which came in the early dawn of 6 June 1967. Israel launched the blitzkrieg that destroyed the Egyptian Air Force on the ground, relentlessly broke up the Egyptian Army and defeated the armies of Syria and Jordan, winning one of the most astounding military victories in the 20th century.

The Palestinians had no time to react. The PLO was paralyzed and did nothing. Only Al-Azifa acted. Yasser himself led his commandoes behind the Israelis who were rapidly advancing. The ceasefire forced him to withdraw but in the darkness of defeat this was a bright ray. While in the painful review of the defeat all Arabs were talking contemptuously of the incompetent chairman of the PLO, the loud-mouthed Ahmad Al-Shukeiri, their thought was focused on Yasser Arafat as his successor.

The change came in 1969. Arafat was triumphantly elected chairman of the executive council and chief of the organization's armed forces. Immediately the renovation began. In the meantime, another strong organization had been set up: the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine which belonged to the extreme left and was led by the dynamic Christian doctor, George Habash. After long negotiations, Arafat was able to incorporate in the PLO this significant organization. But already the entire Palestinian movement had gone through a major crisis.

In Jordan as well as in Lebanon the Palestinians had become a state within a state. Arafat, who found this situation, was not in favor. He was afraid of the reaction in Jordan. Sure enough, around the end of 1962 [sic...1970], Hussein the king of that country and a dynamic leader who had survived four assassination attempts, a formidable parachutist and expert in all weaponry, launched a decisive attack against the Palestinians. The hard and well-trained Bedouins of Hussein smashed, broke up and threw out of Jordan the Palestinians--more than 25,000 of them--who sought refuge in Lebanon and in Syria.

Yasser, accepting his responsibility for the storm, could do nothing more than work out a ceasefire between the Jordanians and the Palestinians. But this conflict inflicted a heavy blow to the Palestinian struggle. Shortly thereafter Arafat was to face another crisis.

In those days another organization showed up: the "Black September." The name derived from the massacre of the Palestinians in Jordan in September 1962 [sic... 1970]. Extremist to the nth degree this organization started barbaric terrorist attacks. It was the organization that massacred the Israeli athletes in Munich in 1972. It was the organization that assassinated Jordanian Prime Minister Wasfi El-Tal in Cairo in 1971. This was the organization responsible for the bloody skyjacking--a true massacre with many dead--of a Sabena aircraft at the Tel Aviv airport.

The effect of these savage actions throughout the world worried Arafat. "We look like a terrorist organization and nothing more," he told his associates. "Where are we going? We'll be isolated. They will see us as a gang of hoodlums."

Already he had limited the activities of Al-Fatah. In 1969 the Fedayeen had carried out 490 attacks--in 1971 only 26 and in 1970, 10. Since then very few attacks have taken place. His attitude on this brought considerable criticism. In 1973, in a joint meeting of the PLO executive committee and the Al-Fatah leadership, he was accused of playing the game of the West with his lukewarm policies.

Yasser Arafat became furious. With fierce eyes, gesturing and shouting, he fought back. "Who among you thinks that only with terrorism can we destroy Israel? Let him come forward to tell me so. What we need is a diplomatic assault. With terrorism we will isolate ourselves. With diplomacy we will isolate Israel. And then we will force it into concessions or we will strike it isolated," [he said] and added: "Let me carry out my diplomatic and political activities. Beginning today I start my campaign. I will go to every capital. I will go to the UN..." He was persuasive and prophetic. Deep inside, they all knew that he was right. Israel, armed to the teeth, one of the best organized states, had won its military

victory for survival. Even in the 1973 war, after the strategic surprise it suffered, it reached such a force that after retaking the canal it almost reached Cairo. It is not possible for Israel to collapse as a result of terrorism. It has already started a ceaseless, terrible campaign against the main Palestinian base in Lebanon, which goes on to such a degree that Arafat has said:

"From 1977 to 1980, the bombardment of Lebanon by Israel equals seven Hiroshima bombs in destructive force."

Thus, all accepted Arafat's new tactic: to shift the center of gravity of the struggle to the diplomatic and political field. From that moment on, the PLO chairman displayed an astounding change. The old Fedayeen turned into a masterful and indomitable diplomat. The civil engineer became a superb architect of political plans. He gave up the old axiom "let us destroy Israel, throw the Israelis to the sea." He now proposes two plans for the solution of the Palestinian problem.

First: To set up, in the place of today's Israel, a liberal, democratic, multi-ethnic, joint Palestinian state, for Palestinians, Israelis and other nationalities and religions with full equality.

Second: To establish a Palestinian state on the lands evacuated by the Israelis. He accompanies these two proposals with such arguments that the Jewish president of Austria, Kreisky, who invited and treated him as a head of state, says:

"What can I say to this man? What can I counter to his logic? Everything realistic and sound is contained in his speech."

Yasser Arafat, thus, has accomplished a spectacular diplomatic course. As he said: "I will go to all the capitals. I will enter the UN." He has done so. He has already visited eight western capitals including Athens. He has countered all opposition against the Palestinians in the Arab world. And we saw the UN receiving him as a head of state and giving him a forum to present the cause of the Palestinians. In fact, with Resolutions 3236 and 3237, the UN General Assembly recognized the PLO as the legitimate and only representative of the Palestinian people. Resolution 3379 of 22 November 1975 characterizes the Zionist movement as racist. This resolution was also accepted by UNESCO.

Today Yasser Arafat is the most famous and most popular personality in the world. He talks as an equal with Brezhnev, and the French LE MONDE wrote: "Soon we'll see him at a tete-a-tete with Reagan." He has promoted the Palestinian cause to an unbelievable degree. Israel, at the height of its military power, feels its foundations shaking. Indomitable Yasser Arafat is wholeheartedly devoted to his mission he so well turns into reality. He does not drink, he does not smoke, he does not care about any kind of entertainment; he is true ascetic. Once a French journalist asked him:

"Haven't you ever had an affair with a woman?"

The tough Fedayeen who has become an unbeatable diplomat replied:

"Who told you that I haven't? I am in love and married."

"Really?" the journalist asked with surprise. "Who is she?"

"Palestine..."

WEEKLY COMMENTS ON SABOTAGE PLOT

GF291934 Manama SADA AL-USBU' in Arabic 29 Dec 81 p 3

[Editorial: "Hands Off"]

[Text] There is still much to be said about the sabotage conspiracy that was aimed at Bahrain a few days ago. This plot was on the verge of changing Bahrain into another swamp of sectarian disputes.

The bank that tried to turn Bahrain into another Lebanon forgot that Bahrain is not Lebanon and that the factors of fragmentation that are prevalent in Lebanon do not exist in Bahrain. The Lebanese structure, which has transformed Lebanon into a pool of blood, was the outcome of Arab and international disputes among various parties with different inclinations. These differences found their way into people's hearts and minds due to the weakness of the leadership on the one hand and the intensity of the declared and undeclared war among the various parties involved in Arab, international and local conflicts on the other hand.

Arab countries, which are under the banner of the Arab League, have not been able to do anything to stop the Lebanese bloodshed because of many factors, including the weakness of the Arab League itself and the spread of the slogan "Oh God, afflict those around us and not us" among the member states of the League.

The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] is certainly different from the Arab League. The members of the GCC show no antipathy toward each other as do members of the Arab League. Furthermore, the factors of attraction on which the GCC was established override all sensitivities and disagreements. Hence, the GCC is capable of decisively confronting any dubious move whether in Bahrain or any other Gulf country.

The denunciation and condemnation GCC member countries voiced against the sabotage conspiracy are not the types of thing an Arab ear is accustomed to hearing. These messages stem from the fact that the fire that was about to burn Bahrain--God forbid--could have set Riyadh, Doha, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi ablaze. The entire region could have been doomed to ruin.

Thus, the confrontation of the conspiracy plotted by Tehran was equivalent to the size of the conspiracy itself. This was, perhaps, the first positive result

of the establishment of the GCC, which has proven its ability to pass the test and has shown that it is capable of raising the slogan "Keep your hands off the Gulf."

"Keep your hands off the Gulf" is not meant to express a difficult situation. Rather, it is a decisive message to the superpowers, which continuously roam around our shores searching for a port in which to drop anchor.

Perhaps this could explain Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Khalifah al Khalifah's statement in which he said that it is time to begin thinking about forming a rapid deployment force for the Gulf countries. This proposal will certainly receive attention, because it comes at the appropriate time, especially since it has been decisively proven that the Gulf countries alone are capable of protecting themselves against the ambitions of adventures and the sabotage of the saboteurs.

CSO: 4404/195

PAPER ON GULF WAR, ISRAELI ACTIONS

GF050630 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 4 Jan 82 p 4

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] New year's hope for ending the Gulf war have collapsed. The intensity of the Iraq-Iran conflict has intensified instead of abating, and it is expected that the war--along with the danger and tension that accompany it--will continue for quite some time.

At this time last year the war had subsided after several months of intensive fighting. It was said that the rainy season was the reason for this, because it turned Iran into a slippery swamp that hampered the movement of tanks and military equipment. This period of quiet lasted until last June, when attacks and counterattacks resumed. This situation still exists today. However, the new year has not witnessed any period of calm despite the coming of the rainy season in Khuzestan.

What is important is not the intensity of the fighting but the new factor represented by the Zionist violation of Iraqi airspace twice during the past few days. The Zionist enemy continues to remind us of itself by periodically revealing its undesirable presence. This Zionist rudeness could have been useful if it had participated in making the other side realize its wrong position and the danger of its rejection of all mediation and efforts to end this war, which is not benefiting anyone. However, despite the Zionist enemy's exploitation of the opportunity several times and its destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the Iranian regime has not renounced its intransigent position, which is based on rejection of mediation and continuation of the war until the end.

This situation has resulted in a new stand that requires us to support Iraq against the Zionist provocations and instigations. The repeated violation of Iraqi airspace indicates that the Zionist enemy has serious plans in mind. At the same time, it is exploiting the continuation of the Gulf war and Arab differences.

Although hopes for ending the war have collapsed, hopes for reconciling Arab ranks still exist. We must continue our attempts to ensure that all efforts to achieve Arab solidarity are successful so that this solidarity will be able to support Iraq against the provocations of the Zionists, whose goals are not yet known to us.

CSO: 4404/195

'AL-AHRAM' PROVIDES BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON NEW MINISTERS

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Jan 81 p 6

[Text] All day yesterday cabinet headquarters witnessed the meetings of Dr Fu'ad Muhyi-al-Din, who is charged with forming the cabinet, with the proposed ministers for the new cabinet. The visits included the meeting of the prime minister with the new ministers for the economic section and the candidates for the ministries of health, waqfs, industry, and administrative development and cabinet affairs.

Who are the new ministers who are entering the new cabinet formation?

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Fattah Ibrahim, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs

--born 28 September 1921

--graduated from the Faculty of Commerce, Cairo University, 1943

--received certificate of fellowship in the Society of Accountants and Auditors in England and a fellowship in the Society of Accountants and Auditors in Egypt

--elected president of the accountants branch in the Merchants Association and secretary general of the Union of Arab Accountants and Auditors

--worked in the post of general finance director in the Engineering Industries Establishment, then as president of the Production Cooperation Establishment

--entrusted with the presidency of the Administrative Guidance Institute which exposed him to various administrative and technical and economic problems which the industrial units face and their solutions

--worked in the post of first deputy in the Ministry of Finance

--appointed Minister of Finance in 1974, then Minister of Social Insurances in April 1975

--in March 1976 he was appointed governor of the Central Bank

--his appointment as governor of the Central Bank was renewed for 4 years in February 1980.

Dr Salah Mamid to the Ministry of Finance

--received a baccalaureate in commerce in 1949 and a diploma in taxation from the Faculty of Commerce and a diploma in taxation from the Faculty of Laws

--received a master's degree in economics from Leeds University, then his doctorate in economics from Edinburgh University

--was appointed a deputy director of the National Institute for Administrative Development in charge of the affairs of the Foreign Relations Center in November 1972

--member of the National Council for Education and Scientific Research in February 1974

--specialist at the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

--he was loaned as a senior economic expert to the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development

--appointed Minister of Finance on 9 November 1976

--appointed (visiting) professor of economics in the Faculty of Commerce at Hulwan University in January 1979

--appointed advisor at the Central Bank for projects assessments in February 1979.

Dr Fu'ad Hashim to the Ministry of Economics

--born in Suez Governorate in 1928

--received a baccalaureate in commerce from Cairo University in 1949

--received a master's in economics at the University of Manchester in 1954, then a PhD in economics from Leeds University in 1956

--appointed to the teaching staff at Cairo University

--expert at the UN in 1966

--economics advisor to the Presidency of the Republic

--visiting professor at a number of Arab universities

--professor of the economics chair at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University in April 1970

Dr Kamal Ahmad al-Janzuri to the Ministry of Planning

--born in Manuf in 1933

- received a doctorate degree in economics from Michigan State University in America
- assistant professor in the National Planning Institute
- advisor in the planning of economic development for the United Nations in Riyadh in 1972
- head of local planning affairs in the Ministry of Planning in November 1974
- appointed governor of al-Wadi al-Jadid Governorate on 12 November 1976
- appointed governor of Bani Suwayf Governorate on 13 May 1977
- appointed president of the National Planning Institute on 13 December 1977
- member of the advisory body to the president of the Republic on 19 March 1981.

Justice 'Adil 'Abd-al-Baqi to Administrative Development and Cabinet Affairs

- received a bachelor of laws in 1952 and a diploma in administration and financial sciences in 1958
- advanced in posts in the Supreme Administrative Court up to the post of deputy of the Court
- was detailed to work in the legal office of the president of the Republic and participated in the preparation of most of the statutes and legislation which have been issued since the start of the July Revolution in 1952
- the last post with which he was entrusted is that of the general secretary of the cabinet with the rank of minister

Safwat al-Sharif to the Ministry of Information

- born in 1923
- graduated from the war college in 1952
- received specialized studies in information and public opinion at the Strategic Sciences Institute
- worked in the presidency of the Republic from 1957 to 1974
- appointed general director for internal information in the Office of Information in 1975
- appointed chairman of the internal information section in the Organization, then chairman of the foreign information section
- member of the Arab Information Committee in 1975

--rose to deputy minister in December 1977

--chairman of the Information Organization in October, to the Fourth Estate in 1978
[sentence as given]

--member of the Committee for the Organization and Transformation of the Press

--member of the founding committee of the National Party

--member of the Qasr al-Nil section committee by election and the secretary of the section by consensus

--reporter of the information committee in the National Democratic Party

--appointed chairman of the board of governors of the TV and Broadcasting Federation on 2 June 1980

Jad-al-Haqq 'Ali Jad-al-Haqq to the Ministry of Waqfs

--born in Daqahliyah Governorate in 1917

--graduated from the Islamic Law Faculty of al-Azhar in 1945 and received a diploma of higher learning, with admission to practice before the higher court

--worked as a court employee in the office of the Mufti until 1954

--advanced in court positions until he became head of the al-Jizah court in 1972

--detailed to inspection of the courts in 1974 as chief of a court and advisor to the appeals court of Cairo in 1976

--on 21 April 1978 he was appointed Mufti of the Republic, succeeding Shaykh Muhammad Khatir, the former Mufti

--member of the board of governors of the TV and Broadcasting Federation and member of the Higher Committee for Islamic Affairs and member of the Islamic Studies Academy

Engineer Fu'ad Abu Zaghlah to the Ministry of Industry

--born in 1925

--graduated from the mechanical section, Cairo Engineering in 1949

--appointed in 1960 member of the board of the General Projects Company for Steel, then chairman of the board of the Egyptian Company for Mineral Production in 1968

--appointed head of War Factory 333, then deputy to the chairman of the Iron and Steel Board until 1975, then chairman of the board of the SIMA company until 1978

--appointed chairman of the Iron and Steel Board in October 1978 until now

--received Order of Achievement and Order of the Republic, second class, in 1965 and the Order of Achievement, first class in 1968; the French government granted him the Order of Merit for his efforts in the manufacture of iron and steel

Dr Yusuf Wali in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

--born in 1930

--graduated from the Faculty of Agriculture at Cairo University in 1951 and was in the forefront of the graduates and so was appointed tutor there, then he was transferred to 'Ayn Shams University after its establishment and remained there until he had the professorial chair in agriculture for fruits at 'Ayn Shams

--received the doctorate from an American university

--continued working in the post of technical advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture for horticultural affairs for the past 10 years in addition to his responsibility for international agricultural agreements at the ministry

CSO: 4504/157

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY CONSIDERS MILITARY JUDICIARY, DIPLOMATIC LAWS

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 15 Nov 81 p 8

/Article by Ahmad Husayn: "Draft Laws before the People's Assembly: Types of Some Crime Are To Be Assigned to the Military Judiciary"/

/Text/ In its upcoming sessions, the People's Assembly will be discussing the drafts of two laws, one assigning some types of crime to the military judiciary and one on the law on the diplomatic and consular corps. The former draft calls for crimes which occur in factories engaged in war production activity or in areas devoted to that or operated on its behalf, or /theft of/ the documents, secrets or any accessories of these factories, to be assigned to the military judiciary.

The draft also stipulates that the military judiciary is to have jurisdiction over all crimes committed against people working in factories engaged in war production activity when these occur as a result of their performance of their functions.

This is because when such crimes are committed, court procedures before the ordinary judiciary take so much time that punishments, in the event they are imposed, do not produce the desired deterrent results, and the crimes are also publicized in the courts.

The latter draft stipulates that the proportion of foreign appointments to total diplomatic and consular corps positions, except for the positions of ambassador, may not exceed 10 percent of the vacant grades in a whole fiscal year and that promotion up to the position of counsellor must be by absolute seniority; however, promotion by selection to up to 10 percent of the vacant positions in each grade will be permitted. A diplomatic and consular corps council will be created in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which will consist of 11 members and will express opinions on drafts of laws and bills bearing on members of the corps and review matters bearing on appointment, seniority, promotion, transfers, loans and appointments.

The draft also states that the assignment period for members of missions in hardship areas will be 2 or 3 years and that these areas are to be specified.

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CSO: 4504/96

MILITARY COURT FORMED, CONVEYS CHARGES TO ACCUSED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1

/Article: "Military Court Commission Is Drawn up: Accused Are Informed of the Indictment on Al-Sadat's Assassination"/

/Text/ A decree has been issued forming the military court commission which is to take charge of trying the persons accused of assassinating the late leader Anwar al-Sadat. It is to be chaired by Maj Gen Dr Samir Muhammad Fadil 'Atiyah, with Maj Gen Mustafa Mahir Fadil and Maj Gen 'Abd-al-'Aziz Mustafa al-Sha'ir as members, and will begin reviewing the case next Saturday.

Maj Gen Fu'ad Khalil 'Abd-al-Salam, the military public prosecutor, Maj Gen Mukhtar Muhammad Husayn Sha'ban, the deputy military public prosecutor, and Capt Mahmud 'Abd-al-Qadir, chairman of the office of the military public prosecutor, will present the charges before the court, which represents District One in the Military Courts Department.

The Department of the Military Public Prosecutor has completed the copies of Higher Military State Security Case Seven for 1981 preparatory to delivering copies of the complete investigations to the accused and the defense representing them.

Most of the accused have been served with the indictment; the rest of the accused, who are incarcerated in civilian prisons, are now being served. The court is to appoint lawyers from the list for accused persons who do not have lawyers representing them.

Maj Gen Samir Fadil was born on 18 March 1932 and acquired a bachelor's degree in law in 1952, a degree in criminology in 1966, a public law degree in 1968 and a doctorate in international law in 1976. He graduated from the War College in July 1954 and has held a number of important posts in the military judiciary--he was chief of prosecution in the Department of the Military Public Prosecutor, chief of Cairo East military prosecution, then chief of military prosecution in al-Isma'iliyah, deputy military public prosecutor, chief of the central military region courts branch, then deputy director of the Military Courts Department.

Maj Gen Mustafa Mahir Fadil Hasan Fadil was born on 17 May 1932, obtained a bachelor's degree in law in May 1953 and a degree in criminal law in October 1971,

graduated from the War College in October 1955, and occupied a number of positions in the military judiciary--he /worked in/ the verification branch of the General Military Judiciary Department, and was chief of the training branch in the department, chief of legal research in the department, chief of the Third Field Army courts branch, chief of the Third Field Army judiciary branch, chief of the judiciary branch in the central military district, and assistant director of verification.

Maj Gen 'Abd-al-'Aziz Mustafa al-Sha'ir was born on 15 March 1933, acquired a bachelor's degree in law in 1954, graduated from the War College on 15 October 1955 and occupied a number of positions in the military judiciary--chief of the verification branch in the General Military Judiciary Department, chief of the verification investigation branch (judiciary investigation), chief of the central military area courts branch, and assistant military judiciary director for judiciary investigation.

11887

CSO: 4504/96

PHENOMENON OF ASSEMBLY ABSENTEEISM NOTED

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 5

/Article: "The Phenomenon of Absences Is Reappearing in the Assembly"

/Text/ The phenomenon of the failure to be conscientious in attendance made itself apparent again in the People's Assembly chamber on the third day of its third ordinary term last week.

More than a quarter of the members failed to attend the session on the approval of assembly committee lists; the opposition, as usual, was scrupulous in attending while majority party deputies were absent.

The deputy attendance lists were all filled and the Pharaonic Hall outside the chamber was also filled, with deputies!

The phenomena of the lack of conscientiousness were evident from the first day of the new parliamentary term.

The number of people in attendance during the election of Dr Sufi Abu Talib as chairman of the assembly came to 349, while the number of members present in the chamber during the election of Sayyid Zaki and Mukhtar 'Abd-al-Hamid as vice chairmen came to just 215.

This means that 34 members left the chamber during the session!

11887

CSO: 4505/96

NEW DECREE REQUIRES CONSTANT REVIEW OF TRAVEL PROHIBITIONS

Cairo MAYU in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1

/Article: "Review of Lists of People Prohibited from Traveling To Be Made in January of Each Year"/

/Text/ Lists of people who have been prohibited from traveling are to be reviewed each year and people's names are to be removed when the causes for prohibiting them from traveling have been eliminated. Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, the deputy prime minister and minister of the interior, has finished preparing a new decree calling for amendment of the provisions of Decree 812 for 1969 regarding lists of prohibited persons. The amendment stipulates that all bodies concerned with the lists of people prohibited from traveling are to conduct an investigation on 1 January of every year into all cases listed, in accordance with their requests, whether these cases are complete or deficient in data, and are to settle them.

The decree also stipulates that the cases where justification and cause for inclusion have been eliminated are to be listed and conveyed to the Department of Travel Documents, Immigration and Nationality before 1 February of every year for removal from the list.

11887

CSO: 4504/96

NEW MEASURES PROPOSED TO PREVENT ASSEMBLY ABSENTEEISM

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 5

/Article: "Deterrent Penalties for Deputies Who Are Absent from Sessions"

/Text/ AL-AHRAR has learned that firm, decisive measures are to be taken against members who are constantly absent from People's Assembly sessions without reasonable excuses and members who sign in for one another on attendance and departure lists at times when the chamber is empty of deputies.

Dr Sufi Abu Talib, chairman of the assembly, condemned the conduct of certain deputies who crowded around the ministers in the assembly chamber during last week's sessions. He warned them against pursuing such conduct and warned the ministers against responding to deputies' requests while the sessions were being held.

Abu Talib declared that, as a solution to this problem, agreement had been reached in final form with deputy prime ministers and ministers whereby they would set aside specific time for the deputies and their requests.

AL-AHRAR has learned that the provisions of the bill will be applied most conscientiously to deputies committing infractions. For instance, part of their compensation for the days in which they were absent without excuse will be deducted and deputies speaking in the chamber in violation of parliamentary tradition will be ejected, following agreement by the entire assembly.

It was also determined that deterrent measures would be taken against committee rapporteurs who are absent when their committees' reports are being reviewed, when that results in a delay in the review of matters presented to the assembly.

Ministers are also not to be absent from sessions or to fail to respond to committees' requests to attend their meetings.

11887

CSO: 4505/96

BRIEFS

SURVEILLANCE AGENCY RESHUFFLE--MAYU has learned that no one from the previous Administrative Surveillance Agency is expected to be appointed to the new agency the government is thinking of establishing in order to follow up and conduct oversight on the activities of ministries and public sector companies. Some foreign papers have stated that 'Abd-al-Khaliq Shawqi, former chairman of the previous Administrative Surveillance Agency, had been appointed counsellor for administrative surveillance affairs in the Office of the President, but that item has no basis of truth whatever. /Text/ /Cairo MAYU in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1/ 11887

VIOLENCE ON TELEVISION--President Husni Mubarak has requested Safwat al-Sharif, chairman of the Radio and Television Federation, to have the Television /Department/ review violent movies which stir up young people, desist from showing this type of movie and present cultural and scientific movies and comedies which are beneficial for young people's minds and increase family cohesiveness. /Text/ /Cairo MAYU in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1/ 11887

MEETINGS WITH GOVERNORS--A major official National Party source has told MAYU that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will hold a meeting with each governor, or with groups of no more than two or three governors, to review work programs in each governorate in the light of the interests, requirements and needs of the masses and review the work that has been carried out. These meetings will begin next December or January. /Text/ /Cairo MAYU in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1/ 11887

CSO: 4504/96

'HUGE RESOURCES' OF URANIUM DISCOVERED IN FOUR AREAS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 19 Dec 81 p 13

[Text] Reza Amrollahi, supervisor of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, told the PARS NEWS AGENCY in an exclusive interview that by using two percent of previous costs and expenditures huge and rich uranium deposits have been found in four places in Iran.

Amrollahi said that various sections of the Atomic Energy Organization are quite busy--particularly in the four sectors where rich and extensive uranium deposits have been found at a cost equivalent to two percent of previous expenditure. The discovery is perhaps one of the most important activities of the organization.

With the discovery of high-quality uranium, the organization has taken steps to produce "yellow cake," one of the preliminary stages in enriching uranium.

He said that the research section of the Atomic Energy Organization has done much in the use of laser and fusion as well as the application of radioisotopes, particularly in the latter case in medicine and agriculture.

The organization has also taken steps in the application of new sources of energy such as solar power desalination facilities as well as the use of solar heat in different areas of the country, particularly in several southern sectors which have difficulty in getting their potable water needs.

Amrollahi said: Of course the Atomic Energy Organization does not intend to build huge plants nor sign big contracts that would involve the presence of foreign experts because benefitting from an industry basically requires that skilled and technical manpower be readied to run such an industry or technology. For this reason a goal of the organization is to train skilled manpower for its various sections.

Referring to future plans of the organization he said: Bearing in mind the policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this organization has four goals, including the preparation of a precise research and scientific program for the industry. This program will be put into effect in various fields in a way that would not require

the help or use of foreign countries. At the same time experts would receive proper and adequate training in carrying out projects without a future need of one-sided foreign contracts to complete such programs. The goal also is to assess, end, and settle previous contracts in a way that would safeguard the interests of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Referring to the conversion of the Bushehr atomic plant, Amrollahi said: We hope that with the help of the government we will be able to carry out at the earliest time a program (preliminaries of which have already been prepared) for use of the plant's possibilities in the construction of docks, prefabricated houses and support for the national fisheries.

In conclusion, the supervisor of the Atomic Energy Organization referred to Iran's claim against the Eurodif Company and said: Under a contract which Iran had concluded with the French company, it was required that a loan of one billion dollars plus interest be paid back without any condition but the company froze the repayment by instituting a claim against Iran. Under the contract of course the loan and its accrued interests are totally protected against legal steps. In other words France had undertaken to repay the loan and interests but despite this undertaking French judicial authorities have not shown any reaction vis-a-vis the action of the above-named company. After a lapse of 2 years, Iran has now tried to arrive at a settlement with the Eurodif Company. France has not shown any reaction in the matter so far. It must be added that the company's demands revolve around work which it never performed for Iran.

5854

CSO: 4640/97

IRAN

'DIFFICULTIES' OF AFGHAN EMIGRES IN IRAN DISCUSSED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Dec 81 p 3

[Text] Following recent developments in Afghanistan and the activities of that country's Nasr Organization, we had the opportunity of interviewing Hojjatoleslam Mir-Hoseyn Sadeqi, a leading member of the Nasr Organization, who spoke briefly about difficulties faced by Afghan immigrants, the expulsion of Afghani students from schools, and new clashes between Afghan mojahedin forces and the Soviet aggressors. We herewith bring you the gist of the conversation:

Question: What difficulties are being faced by brother Afghan immigrants in Iran?

Answer: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. These difficulties are not one or two. Of course one must also bear in mind the difficulties faced by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Afghan fighters and immigrants have great expectations from the Islamic Republic of Iran. As their spokesman, I would like to mention some of them.

One of our grievances with the Islamic Republic of Iran concerns Afghan workers residing in Iran. Afghans working in productive jobs such as construction and agriculture are not only exploited by capitalists and paid inadequate wages for doing strenuous jobs but are not even allowed to transfer more than 2,000 tumans of their earnings to their families and to help the Afghanistan front; this, despite the fact that from the religious point of view the fruit of labor belongs to the laborer. Everyone works and the product of his labor belongs to him. We cannot understand why the Islamic Republic of Iran does not allow the earnings of Afghan workers to be remitted to Afghanistan where it could help a nation wrestling with major powers in a state of war, all the more so when we expect manpower and Islamic aid from the Islamic Republic of Iran since Islam condemns territorial demarcations. Boundaries merely reflect opinion and ideology. The Afghan nation has a religious-based link with Iran. If we turn the pages of history we see that Iran and Afghanistan have had unbreakable links, have had such men of knowledge as Avicenna and Seyyed Jamal who belong to Iran, Afghanistan and Islam. At the present time too our linkage is unbreakable.

When the Islamic revolution of Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni became victorious, the people of Afghanistan welcomed it with enthusiasm, love and affection and considered the Imam not only as the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran but as belonging to Islam and as their own leader.

If you have followed the news from Afghanistan, during the past 3 years, numerous scientific, religious and political personalities as well as many devout individuals and Afghan students have been executed or buried alive by Russian agents merely because of accusations of having ties with the Islamic revolution of Iran and of being in sympathy with that revolution.

We can name as many as 100,000 prisoners about whom we have no news but who have come under the torture and oppression of Afghanistan's Marxist government because they were followers of the Imam.

Some individuals too who were in touch with Imam Khomeyni before the Islamic revolution have also come under pressure under various pretexts. Despite the difficulties of the Islamic Republic of Iran--such as the war with major powers specially the criminal United States, Saddam and internal troublemakers--nevertheless freedom movements, particularly the movement in Afghanistan and the Nasr Organization on whose behalf I am speaking as a member, expect the Islamic Republic of Iran to provide us with help that is possible.

Another of our problems that must be looked into and clarified is the expulsion of Afghani pupils from schools. This has been going on for some time under various pretexts, the pupils being told they should return to their own country. There needs to be an answer as to whether Afghan Muslim immigrant students are considered different from Iranian Muslim students? In this matter one must consider the meaning of 'immigrant' and the root from which it springs in Islam. Perhaps then our behavior will change.

Another of our grievances is that the news which we get out of Afghanistan with great difficulty does not receive attention or propagation by media groups. For example I went to Khuzestan as a representative of the Afghan movement and while there took part in an interview concerning the inhumane activities of the Soviets in Afghanistan, which has not yet been broadcast, as well as Saddam in Kuzestan and also the acts of the puppet regime.

Question: Do you have any fresh news of the bloody war between the mojahedin and the Soviet occupation regime?

Answer: We have news that the Soviets are reinforcing their troops in Afghanistan, including the dispatch of Mig-23s. One of our brothers who is a member of the communication network of the Nasr Organization reported on new attacks by the occupiers and said that numerous attacks by Mig-23s take place in all areas while people are saying their morning prayers in villages; with incendiary bombs destroying hamlets and killing people.

Such bombardments have taken place in the Qarnid sector, Bamiyan Province, Jayturi hospital, Meydan, Behsud, Torkaman, Sorkh Va Parsa, as well as Mig attacks in northern Afghanistan and against Varas village. Incidentally, a Mig and a helicopter were brought down by mojahedin fire in Bamiyan Province.

The strangulating and suffocating atmosphere in Kabul has reached such a point that teenagers and even children are detained on streets by the Marxist government and the Red Army and taken to military garrisons; this, because the Marxist government of Afghanistan knows that the youth soon will go either to Iran or to Pakistan to join mojahedin ranks. The ruling regime hopes to eliminate our movement by this means. We believe the movement in Afghanistan cannot be extinguished.

5854

CSO: 4640/96

ENERGY MINISTER ATTENDS POWER PLANT OPENING

Tehran KEHYAN in Persian 22 Dec 81 p 15

[Text] With Energy Minister Hasan Ghafuri-Fard in attendance, operation of one of two 45-megawatt, gasoline-driven power stations began in the city of Urumiyeh. As a result, 22.5 megawatts of electricity have been added to the nation's power grid.

During this ceremony attended by local officials and the managing director of the Azerbaijan Water and Power Organization, it was disclosed that the gasoline-driven power stations of Urumiyeh were built at a cost of nearly 1.5 billion rials. While participating in the ceremony, the Minister of Energy, who arrived in Urumiyeh to inspect facilities belonging to his ministry, visited the fifth graduating class of the Gendarmerie Regional NCO Academy of Western Azerbaijan, various parts of the Irrigation Affairs Office and he visited the filtration plant of the Urumiyeh Potable Water Company as well as its laboratories and technical facilities and investigated the problems and difficulties of these organizations.

In a brief interview with the Pars News Agency before his departure, the Minister of Energy stated that the reason for his visit to Urumiyeh was the inspection of Energy Ministry facilities in the district. At one point he said: "The Energy Ministry believes special priority should be given the building of small dams for agricultural purposes. Wherever the need is felt for the building of such dams, this ministry is prepared to extend the necessary credit.

CSO: 4640/116

BRIEFS

OPENING OF PIPE FACTORS--The Trunk Pipe Factory of the Center for Expansion of Production and Development Services has been opened in Semnan. At the ceremonies opening this factory which were attended by the governor-general, provincial deputies, the governor, and several directors-general, Brother Sharifzadeh, head of the Center for Expansion, presented explanations about this factory and stated that operations to establish this factory were begun on 26 May 1980 by 22 unemployed graduates, and so far a sum of 46,700,000 rials capital was invested in this company. He added that it is intended that the raw materials will be supplied to this factory by the Center for Expansion, and also some equipment obtained by them is to be delivered. In conclusion, the various sectors of this factory were inspected. [Text] [Tehran BURS in Persian 21 Dec 81 p 4]

CSO: 4640/115

CROWN PRINCE HASSAN INTERVIEWED ON MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1304, 30 Oct 81 pp 33-35

[Interview with Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan by Raghadah Dargham in New York: "Washington Told Us of Its Commitment to Jordan's Sovereignty and Stability!"; date and place not specified]

[Text] The American press said that Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan's visit to Washington and New York was to exchange views and opinions about several issues including the Middle East crisis. The press also asserted that Prince Hassan had sounded out the political climate in Washington prior to King Husayn's visit, and then to put him in the climate of the talks which will be raised with him during the next 3 days. What is this climate, and what is its nature?

AL-HAWADITH met with Prince Hassan, and this is the interview:

[Question] Following the period of coolness in relations between Jordan and the United States, has your visit to the United States and your meetings with American officials improved the climate of these relations?

[Answer] Personal contact enables one to evaluate the position of the new administration. My visit included several important contacts, because of the nature of the American decision-making process in the Senate and the House of Representatives. These contacts have proved something. They have proved that the American position, at this stage, is concentrating on some fundamentals. From the American perspective, they are basically strategic fundamentals. Secretary of State Haig, as we noted in his speech before the UN General Assembly, has said that the United States is prepared to offer support to the autonomy talks, while the rest of the members are preparing a detailed position, which will clarify the U.S. positions with regard to Jerusalem, the settlements and Resolution 242, and especially the factors and changes in the essence of these matters, as a result of the so-called autonomy negotiations. These are important changes and express the thinking of the area's people. I believe that a stage of strategic concentration must be followed by objective steps to return to our issues. This is approximately what I have done.

[Question] According to what was attributed to Secretary Haig in his comments to the press, the American concept of the strategic alliance in the region would include some of the Arab states and Israel, concentrating on opposing the Soviets. King Husayn has described this idea as "simple." Did you discuss this matter during your meetings with American officials? What was the reaction to Jordan's reservations about the alliance or this strategic coordination?

[Answer] Regarding Jordan's position, there was mention made to the American administration that the Reagan administration has been able to create an atmosphere of general unrest in the area, as a result of the continual crises from the bombing of the nuclear reactor in Baghdad to the attacks against Lebanon and the continuation of tension there, and finally, the AWACS aircraft deal for Saudi Arabia. In practice, our position is that there is a basic contradiction between the so-called stability, which includes the concepts of a consensus strategy, or the strategic consensus, and the fact of what Israel is doing in terms of pressure tactics. I think that there is an American willingness to broaden this point of view, after President Reagan has finished listening to Arab points of view from King Husayn's visit, and probably from the visits of the king of Morocco and the Saudi Arabian crown prince.

[Question] Do you mean that the American administration is still prepared to understand Arab positions and comply with them? Do you sense American readiness to transcend the American vehemence regarding the commitment to Israel under any circumstances?

[Answer] American rigidity in supporting Israel's viewpoints is reflected in an important issue, within the general American context. That is the issue of the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia. The dimensions of Zionist influence within the American Senate are completely clear. This rigidity is a fact, but the question is: Does the American president and his administration understand dimensions of this fact? In practice, this is what we shall see in the next few weeks. If the American president understands the depth of this influence, what will the reaction be in the future? This is another question which we shall see answered in the next few weeks. I believe that this matter, like everything, is tied first and last to the Arab position. Can the Arabs get themselves out of the realm of reaction into the desired active role, and in time? This is the important point.

[Question] If Washington fails to persuade the Senate to approve the AWACS deal, do you perceive a readiness on the part of President Reagan's administration to expose the Zionist lobby to the Senate? On the other hand, would Saudi Arabia be able to take practical steps which would demonstrate Saudi determination to the American administration over this matter?

[Answer] These two questions are outside my competency, but my belief is that, in the future, President Reagan will sense the need to rebuild confidence with the Arabs. The Carter administration had been able to establish this confidence, before the Camp David process, and especially in the joint American-Soviet statement, when there was a concentration on the need to move toward a comprehensive peace, including the basic matters, such as the issues of Jerusalem and the occupied lands. Will President Reagan be able to shift from the question of strategic influence and arms sales to the priorities again, so that he can gain the confidence of the people of the area? This is the fundamental question, which might help to change the Israeli negative positions.

As for the second question, pertaining to Saudi Arabia, it has the option to find alternatives to buying arms from the United States. This is a matter which Saudi officials have clearly stated. But, what would be the effect of Arab anger, and especially Saudi anger, on the general American position? This related once again to the Arabs' ability to convey their views in an appropriate manner and with the required solidarity, upon which these new positions must be based.

[Question] In your speech before the General Assembly, you raised the matter of "The U.S. commitment to Israel's security." You said that it was "an ambiguous slogan which has so far failed to define the meaning of the commitment and to declare its limits." You asked: "Why is the United States bound to Israel?" Was Israel the one that was partitioned in 1947? Or Israel the armistice lines in 1948? Or Israel the cease fire in 1967? Did you raise this question directly with the American secretary of state, when you met with him, and what was his response?

[Answer] In general, the response of American officials, and the secretary of state, was that the American position was based on Resolution 242, but which resolution? There are many interpretations and distortions of Resolution 242. It considers the Palestinian case to be a refugee question. This is one of the basic problems. Despite this lofty reference to Resolution 242, it is clear in the European position and the European initiative that the Europeans are also dissatisfied with the American interpretation of Resolution 242. They want to discuss redoing the American position, so that it can distinguish between the matter of free self-determination, with guaranteed withdrawal, and partial self-rule under occupation and under the supervision of military occupation.

[Question] Did you raise these matters in your conversation with Haig?

[Answer] Yes, I mentioned this matter, with respect to the United States and the unlimited view of Israel's security, but it is the reference to 242, with the understanding of the 1967 line and on the basis of the recent changes. The American officials don't understand that the settlements are preventing peace. The settlements are not only preventing peace, but they are illegal. It must be understood that these settlements are illegal. This must not be changed from verbal concepts to other concepts that would allow the policy of occupation to continue.

[Question] During the meeting of the Arab ambassadors in Washington with President Reagan, when one of them broached the matter of the Palestinian question and the right of the Palestinians to a state, it was reported that President Reagan replied that the Palestinians had a state in Jordan. In the American administration's thinking, what significance is attached to Jordan?

[Answer] It was noted recently that there have been American statements asserting the U.S. commitment to Jordan's sovereignty and stability. As regards the concept of the Palestinian state, any nation that hosted the Palestinians after 1947 looks with sympathy at the economic and social rights, and especially with regard to the legitimate political demands of the right to return, to compensation and to establish a state on national soil. We have clearly stated this position to the American administration.

[Question] Your meeting with the Soviet foreign minister, Andre Gromyko, came a few days after Gromyko's meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, which was after the first meeting between Gromyko and Haig. Questions about Gromyko's meeting with Shamir were followed by a hint about the possibility that diplomatic relations would be restored between the two countries. Did you discuss this matter with Gromyko?

[Answer] I believe that any Israeli interpretation of this meeting has its purposes. My impression is that the meeting was clearly what I found it to be during my conversation with the Soviet foreign minister, that is, that there is no change in the

Soviet position, confirmation of Palestinian rights, the right of return and the need to remove the Israeli forces. I believe that the Israeli statement referred to this meeting, by saying that the mere fact it occurred was an accomplishment. I do not believe this, nor do I find any justification for this statement, either over the short or long term.

[Question] Does Shamir's requesting a meeting with Gromyko mean that Israel is prepared to accept the Soviets as a direct party to the solution of the Middle East problem, and that the meeting was a step toward restoring the Soviets' active role in the process of finding a settlement?

[Answer] The Israelis are always looking for ways to polarize the major powers and to negate the political positions of those nations looking for political solutions to the Palestinian question, which Begin does not recognize. If there is a contact with the major powers, it is to attempt to convince them of the status quo. The Israelis might be successful to some extent with the Reagan administration, but I don't think that they will succeed with the Soviet government.

7005

CSO: 4404/123

LIBYA

BRIEFS

AIRLINE FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES--Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has set up a special airline to transport arms to African countries to maintain subversive activities there. This was written yesterday by the French magazine V.S.D. [VENDREDI, SAMDEI, DIMANCHE]. This airline is not a member of any international aviation organization. The company is headed by the adopted son of deposed Emperor Bokassa, an Arab youth called Muhammad 'Ali Hijazi. At the time, Hijazi was an ordinary driver in Beirut and later--so the magazine reports--was recruited by the French intelligence service. During his service with the French intelligence service, Hijazi was preoccupied with other businesses as well. In the framework of his business, he met Emperor Bokassa. Hijazi also was involved in arms smuggling. According to the French magazine, he obtained arms from Eastern bloc countries. [Text] [Report by Paris-based correspondent Tamar Golan] [TA081143 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Jan 82 p 2]

CSO: 4423/69

VARIOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 1981 REVIEWED

Doha AL-RAYAH in Arabic 3 Nov 81 p 9

[Article: "Statement by Council of Ministers Secretariat on State's Domestic Accomplishments During 1400-1401 of the Hegira; Major Accomplishments in Various Sectors"]

[Text] Yesterday, on the occasion of the opening of the 10th ordinary session of the Consultative Council by His Redeemed Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the Council of Ministers General Secretariat issued a statement on the state's domestic accomplishments during 1401 of the Hegira, corresponding to 1981.

The accomplishments are spread over the spheres of industry, agriculture, education, social affairs, construction projects, public health, telecommunications, ports, civil aviation, roads, electricity, water, information and municipal affairs.

Following is the text of the statement:

Industrial Sector

The Qatar Iron and Steel Joint-Stock Company has continued its efforts to realize further record figures in all aspects of its activity, especially in the sphere of production and marketing. The plant's iron production in the first half of this year amounted to 232,990 tons, with a utilization rate of 116 percent of the designed capacity. The production of this type of iron rose by 46,184 tons in comparison to the corresponding period of last year. The production of mass iron amounted to 232,488 tons, with a utilization rate amounting to 116 percent of the designed [production] capacity. The production of this type of iron rose by 107,277 tons in comparison to the corresponding period of last year. The production of reinforcement iron rods amounted to 232,525 tons, at a utilization rate amounting to 140 percent of the designed production capacity and with an increase of 8,059 tons over the corresponding period of last year. Sales have developed at the same fast rates as production. These record figures make obvious the degree of success realized by the company in the spheres of production and marketing.

The cement industry has also realized a big leap in production. The plant's total production of ordinary and resistant cement amounted in the first 6 months

of this year to 128,934 tons, with an increase of 26,181 tons over the corresponding period of last year. The plant's production of unslaked lime amounted in the same period to 11,097 tons, with an increase of 1,248 tons over the corresponding period of last year. Preparations are currently underway to install a new raw material pulverizer. When this pulverizer is put into operation, cement and unslaked lime production is expected to rise by 100,000 tons.

Chemical fertilizer production has developed considerably during this year and last year. The utilization rate in the production of ammonia amounted to 77 percent of the designed production capacity in the first 6 months of this year whereas the utilization rate in the production of urea amounted in the same period to 89 percent of the designed production capacity.

Production in the Qatar Petrochemicals Joint-Stock Company started regularly as of the beginning of this year. By the end of the first half of the year, Ethylene production amounted to 63,277 tons, at a utilization rate of 45 percent of the designed production capacity, low-density polyethylene production amounted to 55,044 tons, at a utilization rate of 79 percent of the designed production capacity, and sulfur production amounted to 2,778 tons, at a utilization rate of 12 percent of the production capacity. With the start of regular production, the company began to take the necessary measures to market the plant's production and to conclude the necessary contracts.

The liquefied natural gas plants also started their production with the beginning of the current Christian year. Production in the first quarter of the year amounted to 45,629 tons of propane, 28,826 tons of butane and 19,767 tons of natural gasoline. By the end of the second quarter, the production rose to 72,814 tons of propane, 49,636 tons of butane and 39,861 tons of natural gasoline. Most of the production of these plants is exported to the world markets and only a small part is consumed locally.

The organic fertilizer plant has continued its activity. The plant converts 70-75 percent of the garbage received into fertilizer. Scrap iron salvaged from the garbage amounts to 5 percent. The volume of organic fertilizer produced in the first half of this year amounted to 10,582 tons and the scrap iron salvaged amounted to 856 tons in the same period. A study is currently underway to build an additional production unit to double the plant's production so as to meet the increasing demand.

The National Oil Company is increasing its production of oil derivatives, especially since several improvements have been introduced into the refinery. In the first half of this year, the company produced 45,633 barrels of butagas [butane gas], at a utilization rate of 226 percent of the designed production capacity, 15,987 barrels of super benzine, at a utilization rate of 181 percent, 539,245 barrels of regular benzine, at a utilization rate of 181 percent, 242,016 barrels of jet fuel, at a utilization rate of 205 percent, 17,721 barrels of regular kerosene, at a utilization rate of 205 percent, and 553,857 of diesel fuel, at a utilization rate of 216 percent.

Agricultural Sector

Within the framework of the state policy to diversify the sources of income, the agricultural sector has made long strides aimed at raising agricultural, fish and livestock production in order to realize food security and to avoid the sharp fluctuations in the prices of these commodities.

The most important accomplishments in the agricultural sector include the following:

1. The performance of a comprehensive statistical and economic survey of the agricultural resources and of the crop structure and the publication of an annual bulletin on agricultural statistics.
2. The preparation of an analytical study on the main features of agricultural development in the past 10 years and the publication of a scientific reference on this development.
3. The preparation of a complete study on the project to build crop, grain and fodder silos.
4. The program for the purchase of fruit seedlings for distribution to private farms and for cultivation in the government farms.
5. The performance of a study to build a new covered nursery [greenhouse] in the government's experimental farm for the production of seedlings.
6. The modern irrigation network for the citrus groves.
7. The program for comprehensive pest control.
8. The program for the distribution of pesticides to farmers in southern and northern Qatar.
9. The program for expanding the mechanized harvesting of barley, wheat and green fodders and for the use of plowing equipment.
10. The construction of veterinary hospitals at the Agricultural Services Center in the north and in al-Khawr and the establishment of a veterinary clinic in al-Rayyan.
11. The control of cattle plague.
12. The breeding and artificial insemination program.
13. The program to provide care for race horses and camels.
14. The livestock healthcare program.
15. The program for experiments on wild plants.
16. The program for the maintenance of afforested areas.

17. The program to propagate the growth of (al-qurm) and of reeds on the Qatari coastline.
18. The agricultural guidance program for the preservation of crops.
19. The program for the purchase and distribution of chemical fertilizers.
20. The program to afforest the Qatar University area.

Moreover, periodic water surveys were conducted in farms, exploratory underground water wells were dug and the measures which can contribute to stabilizing the supply of vegetables and fruits to the country's consumers were also taken.

Plans were also drawn up to implement numerous programs and projects in the next 2 years, including the programs to improve irrigation efficiency in the farms and to streamline the consumption of underground water. All these projects seek to to realize horizontal and vertical agricultural expansion.

In the sphere of development of the fish resources, the plans prepared for the coming period seek to initiate the comprehensive biological and chemical survey and to implement the programs for fishermen's guidance services and the programs for surveying the fish resources.

Education

The growth and development movement has continued its progress in the fields of education and sciences and has covered all aspects of the educational process, including the student, the teacher, the school building, additional education [sic], the budget, the books and other aspects. The number of students in day schools amounted during the current year to 39,944 students, with an increase of 2,293 student or 6.1 percent over last year. The number of the Ministry of Education employees, including male and female teachers, educators and others, has reached 4,236 employees, with an increase of 431 male and female employees or 8.7 percent over last year. The number of Qatari employees has risen to reach 1,219 male and female employees.

A total of 1,074 male and female students graduated this year from the secondary and specialization stages and from the university. The number of college students enrolled in the University of Qatar has amounted to 2,673 students and the number of college students studying abroad has reached 1,305 students enrolled in various literary and scientific disciplines. The number of college students studying in and outside Qatar has risen by 1,051 male and female students or by 35.9 percent.

The number of male and female students enrolled in the illiteracy eradication and adult education centers has reached 6,933 students, including 4,506 students in the elementary stage, 1,558 students in the preparatory stage and 869 students in the secondary stage.

The number of students enrolled in private Arab and foreign schools has reached 8,719 students studying in 24 schools subject to the ministry's control and guidance.

The educational development has not been confined to the quantitative aspect to the exclusion of the qualitative aspect. Both aspects have developed along parallel lines. As part of the qualitative development plan, comprehensive development has been introduced into the curricula and the textbooks. This development has been partial in some of the curricula and textbooks and total in others. Some of the most important forms of this development have been the evaluation made of the modern mathematics experiment, the study made on introducing modern mathematics into the elementary stage, completion of the integrated sciences experiment, completion of the integrated social courses materials for the three [elementary, preparatory and secondary] stages and completion of the English language experiment for the elementary and preparatory stages. Efforts are currently underway to complete writing the books for the secondary stage.

Regarding the educational policy and the strategy of education, the sub-committees emanating from the general committee formed from most of the state's ministries for this purpose has completed its work and has drawn up the preliminary reports in this regard.

The development has been characterized by incorporating the teacher training programs at the University of Qatar in a single program extending over a period of 2 academic years. Steps have also been taken to start implementing the first phase of the educational television programs after appointment of the necessary technical and administrative cadres. The initial measures necessary for opening institutes for the disabled as of the beginning of next year have also been taken.

In the sphere of vocational development and training of the national cadres, a total of 83 trainees graduated this year from regular courses in the various sections and workshops. Efforts are currently underway to improve and diversify the training programs.

Social Sector

The authorities concerned have continued their efforts to implement the social projects seeking to provide social services and to guarantee the right to work and to proper housing for every citizen.

In the sphere of social security, aid is advanced to needy citizens. The number of cases meriting social aid in 1401 of the Hegira amounted to 6,293 cases of disabled, old, widows, divorcees, orphans and retarded persons.

Branch offices of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs have been opened in various areas to facilitate advancing social services to the citizens in their place of residence. A social training and preparation center has been opened to train Qatari women and girls on a number of skills and crafts so as to help them rely on themselves in earning a living and in participating in the process of the country's comprehensive development. The period of training at the center is 2 years at the end of which the trainee acquires a diploma. The center can accommodate 100 trainees. Preparations are currently underway to open another similar center so that the desired benefit may spread to the largest number possible of Qatari women and girls.

Construction Projects

Numerous construction projects were completed this year and others are still under construction and will be completed next year. The total number of projects completed this year is 59 projects, including 16 elementary schools in various parts of the country, in addition to completing the external work for other schools in various parts. These projects also include 6 health centers inside and outside the capital, completion of the Hamad General Hospital, the officers' complex at the air base, a helicopter hangar at the Doha International Airport, the nurses training school at al-Rumaylah Hospital, a customs building in Abu Samrah, a post office in the city of al-Shamal, an additional obstetrics wing at al-Rumaylah Hospital, doctors' and nurses' houses in the cities of al-Shamal and al-Khawr, a mosque in each of the Teachers Education College, the Mushayrib Elementary School and the Industrial Secondary School and houses for the firemen at the [air] base. The projects further include completion of the third phase of improvements and expansion at the Doha International Airport, the Public Petroleum Organization and the government housing units in Musay'id.

The number of projects under construction amounts to 70 projects, including 33 elementary schools in various parts of the country, mostly in the capital and its suburbs, the Religion Institute in al-Laqtah, the agricultural experiments station in Rawdat al-Faras, the new women's hospital, operation rooms in the present women's hospital, 3 mosques in various places, police housing units in Umm Sa'id, a veterinary clinic and a post office building in al-Rayyan and another building in the industrial zone, the fourth phase of the naval base, the officers' complex at the navy corps [headquarters], a customs building and a health center in the area of (Sawda Nuthayl), 713 popular housing units in the area of the western Doha gulf, a police college and 7 athletic clubs in Doha and other cities and the fourth phase of the improvement and expansion at the Doha International Airport.

A total of 68 projects are in the phase of blueprinting, of planning or the phase of the start of construction, including the General Post Office Building on the western Doha gulf, police and fire stations, popular housing, post office centers, swimming pools, athletic halls, 100 villas on al-Khawr shore for tourist purposes, 5 libraries in various parts of the country, additional housing for al-Rumaylah Hospital, a laundromat at the Hamad General Hospital, doctors' and nurses' houses in Musay'id, health centers in various parts of the country, housing for employees and workers in government farms and sports buildings for the police.

A number of free housing units have been completed. Moreover, 600 housing units have been completed in the area of the western Doha gulf. Six hundred more units are under construction. Work will also begin for the construction of 700 popular housing units in 1982, in addition to 400 prefabricated housing and 150 houses which will be demolished and rebuilt.

Public Health

Work has been underway to establish the health register with the aim of including the name of every citizen and resident in it and then of giving each citizen or resident a health card to be used for [making use of] all the health services offered in the country. Numerous health centers have been set up so that health

and medical service may be made available to all the inhabitants easily and smoothly.

The health agencies have continued their interest in the project for primary health services and the existing health centers have been staffed with technical, medical and service cadres. Eight new health centers have also been opened in various parts of Doha, the capital, and its suburbs. Preparations are underway to set up more such centers in the capital next year.

The Hamad General Hospital project has entered the final phase of completion in preparation for operating as a technically advanced and modern curative institution. The Hamad General Hospital will cooperate with similar Arab Gulf, Arab and international institutions in the exchange of medical, health and technological information and expertise.

The services offered by al-Rumaylah General Hospital at present will be transferred to the Hamad General Hospital at the end of this year. Al-Rumaylah Hospital will then devote its time to offering other services.

A new section attached to the Hamad General Hospital and specialized in gynecology, obstetrics and newborn care is under construction currently. When completed, this new section will replace the existing obstetrics hospital.

Through a large number of centers spread in the various areas and in ports, airports and land entry points, the preventive health agencies have carried out the work of checking arriving and departing passengers and of implementing the international health laws and agreements. In this regard, these agencies have succeeded in protecting the country from diseases [epidemics] and in safeguarding the citizen's health.

Telecommunications

The current year has witnessed extensive development in the sphere of providing internal and external telecommunication services to the country. Insofar as the telephone service is concerned, telephone lines have been supplied to nearly 11,000 new subscribers and the service will be supplied to nearly 12,000 new subscribers annually in the coming years. Direct telephone links have been established between Qatar on the one hand and West Germany, Japan, Egypt, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, Greece, Canada, Australia and Spain on the other. Thus, the state is linked through direct communications with 21 Arab and foreign states. Preparations are also currently underway to implement the project for mobile telephone services. The civilian and preparatory works for this project have been completed with the aim of setting up the network which will cover all of Qatar and will extend to ships in Qatar's territorial waters.

An invitation for international bids to lay down the Gulf naval cable has been advertised. This project will link Qatar directly with Bahrain and the UAE and will establish communication between them at a cost lower than that of using artificial satellites.

Preparations are also underway to build the coastal communications station which will enable ships on high seas to contact the State of Qatar directly by telephone, cable and telex. The station will also provide the opportunity to offer aid and guidance services to ships and to supply ships with information on the weather, sea and wind conditions. The transmission station will be built in the area of al-Khawr and the reception and control stations in Doha. All the measures necessary to invite international bids for the project have been completed.

As for satellite communications, the necessary modifications have been introduced to make the Doha-1 ground station compatible with the operation of the new Intelsat-5 satellite over the Indian Ocean. The necessary tests have been conducted and the station is now ready to operate with this new satellite. The needed measures have also been taken to enable the Doha-1 ground station to establish new direct telephone channels through the satellite over the Indian Ocean. To enhance the country's external telephone communications so that they may keep abreast of the comprehensive development in all spheres, an agreement has been reached with the International Space Communications Organizations to increase the frequency wavelengths of the ground station so that the capacity of the operational circuits may rise from 192 to 228 circuits.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has approved the construction of a ground station for communication through the satellites over the Atlantic Ocean. The necessary steps are being currently taken to build a model and complete ground station for this purpose so as to make it possible to establish communications with a larger number of countries in Europe, Africa and America. This project is expected to be completed within 2 years.

At the same time, work is in progress to build and equip the ground stations for the Arab satellite which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1983. One of the most important objectives of this project is to provide effective and rapid external communication between the countries participating in this project with the aim of realizing a more efficient coverage of world events.

Work on the Qatar-Saudi Arabia microwave network project, which seeks to enhance the means of direct telephone services between the two countries, is about to be completed and the project is expected to go into operation by the end of next year.

Ports

The following major projects have been completed this year:

1. The partial operation of the Musay'id commercial port.
2. The construction of a workshop to carry out maintenance work for the naval units belonging to the Ports Authority.
3. Special yards planned for container storage in Doha port.
4. Special equipment provided for container storage operations.

Preparations are underway for other projects whose implementation will begin in the near future. These projects include:

1. The full operation of Musay'id port and providing the manpower needed by this port.
2. Lighting the storage yards in Doha port.
3. The construction of two control and guidance towers in the ports of Doha and Musay'id.
4. The construction of a pier for tugboats.
5. The construction of a cold storage unit in Doha port.
6. The construction of additional piers in Doha port.
7. The construction of a floating station to supply sailboats with water and fuel.
8. Upgrading the jetties of some of the piers of Doha port.
9. Upgrading the jetties of the sailboat pier.
10. The construction of a new building for the Ports Authority.

In the sphere of postal services, model post offices have been built in al-Ruways, al-Rayyan and the industrial zone. These offices will be opened shortly.

New post offices have also been opened in various parts of the capital and super postal service (Dana Post) has been introduced between Qatar on the one hand and the Netherlands and Britain on the other.

Preparations are also underway to introduce this service with a number of other foreign countries. New mailboxes have also been installed for the subscribers, bringing the total of such boxes to 12,000.

As for future projects, an automatic post office fitted with the latest postal technology will be built and new model post offices will be built in each of al-Wakrah, Umm Sa'id, Dukhan, al-Khawr, al-Gharrafah and Umm Sallal.

Civil Aviation

The new hall for arrivals has been opened in the Doha International Airport. The new technical building has also been put into operation, the main and subsidiary runways of the Doha International Airport have been strengthened, special parking places have been allocated for the ground service equipment and the fire engines and rescue vehicles section has been renewed and developed.

Work on the construction of a special hall for departures from the Doha International Airport continues.

Most of the construction work at the helicopter base in Doha International Airport has been completed.

Preparations are underway to conduct the technical and economic studies necessary for the construction of an air freight building, to set up a ground service station, to construct a number of automatic ground monitoring stations and a telegraph line for the exchange of weathercasts with the Radio Meteorological Communications Center in Jiddah and to construct a weather radar.

Road Projects

Road works in various parts of the country have increased considerably this year. Al-Khalij Street and several other main streets in Doha have been improved. The second phase of al-Rayyan-al-Shamali road has been completed, a car park has been built at the Doha International Airport. The road extending from the Ministry of Information to the Sheraton Hotel and linking with al-Markhiyah Road and the University Road has been paved. Loop-B has been improved and other roads have been improved or constructed in Umm Sa'id area. Work has been completed on the third part of al-Shamal Road and on al-Wakir road which leads to al-Karrarah, to the sheep farm and then to the poultry farm.

Work is currently in progress to build the bridge near al-Jayyidah Circle and to improve Loop-C, including the construction of more than one circle on this road. Work is also underway to pave the Government House Road, to improve the Mushayrib Road, to build al-Jisrah and the Greater Hamad Road, to rebuild Loop-B, to complete the three phases of the roads in the industrial zone and the roads in the wholesale market. Work is also underway to build a subsidiary road leading from Loop-A to Khalifah Road and to complete road works for 600 houses south of Loop-D, the main roads in al-Khawr and roads for residential sections in al-Khawr. Work is also in progress to rebuild the road leading to the zoo, subsidiary roads in al-Rayyan, the University-Western Doha Gulf Road and roadworks in Doha's residential areas.

Work is also in progress to build and improve other roads in Musay'id, in addition to the Doha-Abu Samra Road, Rawdat al-Khayl-al-Ziyarah Road, al-Dukhan-al-Jumayliyah Road and the third section of Dukhan Road. Construction also continues on the breakwaters in Doha Port. Some sites in the western Doha Gulf and on the Corniche Road in Doha are being filled.

The electric power production capacity has risen this year from 618 megawatts to 828 megawatts in the wake of the operation of three additional turbines in Ra's Abu Fintas Plant. Work is currently underway to install four generators, each with a capacity of 70 megawatts, in various parts of Doha, the capital. These turbines will be put into operation at successive periods next year.

Work will also begin shortly to implement the first phase of the Ra's Laffan Electricity and Water Desalination Plant which will have an initial capacity of 600 megawatts and 40 million gallons of water daily. When completed, this plant will have a final capacity of 1,500 megawatts and 100 million gallons of water daily.

Regarding the electricity distribution network, work is currently in progress to supply electricity to the western coast of Doha, to the area of Musay'id, to the villages of al-Ka'ban, to the area of al-Sulaymi and the neighboring villages, to the area of al-Jafarah and the adjacent villages and to the industrial zone on Salwa Road. The distribution network supplying electricity to Doha and its suburbs, to al-Wakrah, al-Khawr and al-Shamal.

As for the transmission and distribution network, a new observation and control center is being constructed at present and the present center is being modified to absorb the distribution network. This project will be completed next summer.

Electricity was supplied to 3,973 new subscribers by the end of the month of Shawwal of this year. The government has also devoted attention to supplying villages and remote areas with electricity and has supplied these areas with the necessary generators.

Water

This year has witnessed a fundamental development in the water distribution system by relying to a large degree on distribution through the pipeline network. New sources of water have also been developed and efforts are underway to develop the storage means to make them compatible with the industrial, social and construction renaissance being experienced by the country.

The main distribution network has been extended to seven new areas and a distribution network is being currently built for 12 more areas. A total of 2,474 new connections have been added to the distribution network, with an increase of 65 percent over last year. The remote control center has been put into full operation and at a very high efficiency. Additional work has also been implemented outside the city of Doha to make it possible to supply water in adequate quantities to al-Wakrah, al-Wakir, al-Khawr and the city of al-Shamal.

After completion of the work in the eight units in Ra's Abu Fintas plant, work was started on the expansion phase which, when completed in 1403 of the Hegira, will raise this plant's production capacity. Completion of the work in the storage reservoir in Ra's Abu Fintas has contributed to increasing the current production rate. Work has also been started to build intermediate reservoirs and to install distillation equipment. A water storage plan has also been drawn up. In accordance with this plan, the capacity of the storage tanks will rise next year to 66 million gallons or nearly twice the current storage capacity. Two years hence, the storage capacity will reach 134 million gallons. Plans are also being drawn to build two new storage complexes, one south of Doha and the other in the industrial zone.

Information

The state's official information media have continued their march in rapid steps while devoting their attention to developing their activities at the various levels. In the sphere of radio broadcasting, a new apparatus with a capacity of 250 kilowatts has been put into operation for short wavelength transmission from al-Khaysah station to serve the station's general program. A new medium wavelength

has been added to the Popular Radio to cover the Gulf area with a strength of 100 kilowatts. The apparatuses and equipment necessary for the new radio building and for the studio network have also been installed in preparation for the start of production. The radio attained record transmission figures during the month of Ramadan, as it did last year, when transmission continued 24 hours a day throughout that month. At present, the transmission covers a large part of the world. One of the plans being studied at present calls for transmission to cover most countries of the world through use of the short wave. Another plan calls for installing a 50-kilowatt medium-wave transmitter at al-Khaysah Station for French-language transmission.

The local television activities have also expanded and the television studios produced this year numerous series on various issues and of different kinds and objectives. Plans have been drawn up for more local production next year, especially the production of programs connected with dear national occasions. Preparations are also underway to launch Channel 2 with a capacity of 600 kilowatts. The studios have been fitted with the latest instruments and equipment.

The Printing and Publication Authority has continued publishing new, varied and numerous information publications reflecting the various aspects of the comprehensive development and progress in the country. This authority has also undertaken a major role in establishing contacts with a number of major European and Asian papers, especially on the occasion of the 10th independence anniversary.

The QATAR NEWS AGENCY has proceeded according to the plan drawn up to develop its activities in all the press and technical spheres. The agency implemented this year a part of the first phase of the new transmission network project which seeks to cover a number of countries in the Gulf area, Europe, America and Africa. In the sphere of information cooperation, the agency has concluded agreements with a number of Arab news agencies. When the transmission project, which will cover the remaining West European countries, Africa and central and southeast Asia, is completed the QATAR NEWS AGENCY will be the first Arab news agency to use the system of transmission through satellites.

The Culture and Art Authority has held a number of cultural symposiums, folklore shows and expressionist art exhibitions. The authority has also conducted field studies to gather, record and document the folklore arts and to set up a popular heritage library. It has also contributed to establishing the popular heritage centers in the Arab Gulf states.

During the year, the music institute was opened and regular studies were started in it. The institute's curriculum provides for academic and musical instruction so as to enhance the standard of its students at the various levels. One of the institute's goals is to attain musical prominence in terms of music that is alternately traditional and contemporary.

In the archeological sphere, the phase of archeological excavation in the area of al-Khawr has been completed and the first volume on the outcome of the phase has been published and distributed inside and outside of Qatar. Maintenance work has been carried out in a number of archological sites in preparation for setting up regional museums in these sites. The sixth phase of excavation for archeological

remains will start shortly in four archeological sites. Maintenance work will also be carried out for a number of archeological houses and mosques. Work is also in progress to build a hall for the display of rare historical coins.

In the sphere of tourism, concerted efforts have been exerted to complete the chalets at Ra's al-Farjiyah in al-Khawr area.

Municipal Affairs

The municipalities have devoted attention to building public parks and gardens and to planting trees on roadsides. A total of 23,614 trees have been planted in a million square meters for the purpose. At the outset of 1401 of the Hegira, the Doha Municipality opened the wholesale markets and started operating the retail market. Work on the two local markets in Fariq ibn 'Imran and on the Salwa Road was completed. Ninety-six storage units and a public auction yard were also built. The municipality is also devoting special attention to planting trees on the corniche and in the Doha Airport park which includes green fields, canopied benches a restaurant, a coffee shop, children's playgrounds and a car park. During the same period, work was also completed in the second phase of Rawdat al-Khayl park which will be completed finally next year. The third phase of the project to enlarge and develop the zoo has also been completed and implementation of the fourth phase has started. The project includes the animal cages and yards, the aviaries, green fields, a control room, a hall for childcare, a children's playground, a train line, a mosque, a first aid room and an information office.

The studies necessary for other basic projects have also been completed and these projects will go into implementation next year. These projects include doubling the production capacity of the organic fertilizer plant, the construction of a main bus station for the public transport buses, building a big fountain in the western Gulf (al-Dafnah area), developing the four circles [presumably meaning circular roads] of the port, the radio station, the 'Abdallah ibn Thani Road and al-Muntazah and building 12 small and medium-size public parks in various parts of the city of Doha and its suburbs, setting up a model farm in al-Dafnah area, building the corniche public park, building seven local markets in various parts of Doha and developing the Umm Qarn three nursery.

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DAILY SKEPTICAL OF U.S.-ISRAELI DISCORD

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[Article by Jasir al-Jasir: "We Only Have to Wait to See the End of the U.S. Theatricals"]

[Text] The words which the U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv heard recently from enemy Prime Minister Menahem Begin were not the first of their kind. This was not the first insult. Menahem Begin had previously insulted the United States and its president in the United States itself.

Perhaps Menahem Begin out of all the Zionist prime ministers, understands best the nature of U.S.-Israeli relations. They are relations based on blackmail and cannot be viewed from the angle of diplomatic tradition which governs relations among other states. The Zionists feel and believe that they can pressure and blackmail any U.S. administration and that they can make and break U.S. presidents and oust them from the White House in disgrace. This is the Zionist mentality, and U.S. officials appear to accept it as proved by their complete and continuous submission to the instructions of the Zionist pressure groups.

What infuriated Menahem Begin and made him abuse and accuse Reagan and his administration of such traditional Jewish-claimed crime of anti-semitism was the new round of U.S. theatricals (the suspension of the strategic cooperation agreement). It seems that Begin's stage directing style is different from the U.S. style. He turned the suspension into abrogation.

We are interested here not so much in Begin's insults to his allies as in knowing how long these theatricals when the U.S. suspended the sale for fighter aircraft to Israel after Israel's murder of innocent people in al-Fakhani and southern Lebanon? In this case, time may not work in the U.S. favor because the latest Security Council resolution nullifying Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights gave Israel 2 weeks to abide by the decision. If it does not the Security Council will meet again to consider imposing sanctions on the Zionist state. The true face and policy of the United States will then appear and the United States will cast its veto against the Arabs. The day is not far off and we do not have to wait long.

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